

# ANGLER GUIDE

## **Lake Springfield** (Southwest Region, in cooperation with Springfield City Utilities)

Information: 417/895-6880

**Largemouth bass** fishing is typically excellent. Numbers and size structure are generally good. Chances exist to catch a trophy size bass. A large area of American Lotus was treated in 1998; this has increased angling opportunities for largemouth bass. **Crappie** anglers can expect some fishing success. Quality size crappie do exist, but are limited in number. **White crappie** is the dominant crappie species present. **Bluegill** fishing should be good as overall size structure has remained constant. A good portion of the bluegill population exceeds 6 inches. **Channel catfish** are preferred by many Lake Springfield anglers and should provide continued excellent fishing. Many 10-20" channel catfish are present. Favorite baits include night crawlers, chicken livers and prepared dough baits. Anglers also have an opportunity to catch a variety of river species such as **golden redhorse suckers, bullheads, carp, rock bass and green sunfish**. The upper end of the reservoir, fed by the James River, is a popular area to gig suckers. Community Assistance Program fishing facilities are available and include a barrier free fishing jetty, disabled user fishing dock located at the dam and a boat launching ramp.

## **James River** (Southwest Region)

Information: 417/895-6880

The James River, in southwest Missouri, features both scenic beauty and excellent fishing. **Smallmouth bass, largemouth bass** and **spotted bass** are present. Abundance and size structure are good. Excellent opportunities are also available to catch **rock bass, channel catfish** and **carp**. Anglers should remember that special regulations apply in the Black Bass Stream Management Area on the 23 miles of river between Hooten Town bridge (Stone Co. Rd. A-90) and the Highway 13 bridge at Galena. In this area, the minimum length limit on smallmouth bass and largemouth bass is 15", and the minimum length limit for spotted bass is 12". Anglers may harvest six black bass daily, of which only one may be a smallmouth bass. Below the Highway 13 bridge at Galena, Table Rock Lake regulations apply, and all black bass possessed must be at least 15". It is important for anglers to correctly identify the [three species of black bass](#) found in the James River. Signs with identification information are posted at Missouri Department of Conservation access sites in the Black Bass Stream Management Area.